

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 5-13-03

IMMEDIATE RECONSIDERATION

FAILED 5-13-03

Submitted by: Assemblymembers WHITTLE,
Shamberg, Taylor, Tesche, Tremaine, and Van Etten
Prepared by: Department of Assembly
For reading: May 13, 2003

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 2003-131

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING A SOUTH CENTRAL
COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE AND REQUESTING FEDERAL FUNDS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT A
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR THAT SERVICE

WHEREAS, a South Central commuter rail service would add choice, access, mobility, and safety, particularly during winter driving conditions, for moving people between the Municipality of Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, commuter rail service would serve 10,000 people who currently work at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport and provide rail transit alternatives to other employment centers, major health, education, and shopping clusters throughout South Central Alaska; and

WHEREAS, thousands of rural and urban Alaskans, as well as tourists, who fly into Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport everyday to conduct business and shop, need affordable transportation alternatives to and from Downtown Anchorage, Dimond Center, and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Glenn Highway is the only major transportation link between two of Alaska's fastest growing populations and commuter rail will provide an alternative transportation link, relieving highway congestion; and

WHEREAS, commuter rail may help delay the decision to expand the Glenn/Parks highway to eight lanes thereby savings tens of millions of dollars which can be spent on other necessary infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage is a non-attainment area for air quality and commuter rail will help reduce air pollution by taking cars off the highway system; and

WHEREAS, commuter rail will help promote efficient land use and transit oriented housing developments; and

WHEREAS to lay the foundation for a commuter rail service, the Alaska Railroad Corporation has been making necessary safety and infrastructure improvements to its rail system within the South Central Region by straightening tracks and converting to automated switching technology which improves operating times; and

WHEREAS, commuter rail service requires operating subsidies similar to other mass transit alternatives including highway construction and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the governments of the Municipality of Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough have already established a Regional Transportation Planning Agency which is able to lend its support to the formation of a Regional Transportation Authority that can administer the new commuter rail service.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly resolves:

Section 1: That the Anchorage Municipal Assembly hereby endorses formation of a Regional Transportation Authority with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and seeks assistance through Alaska's Congressional Delegation for Federal funding necessary to support a demonstration project for South Central commuter rail service,

Section 2: That the Anchorage Municipal Assembly recommends that the Regional Transportation Planning Organization review costs and benefits of creating a Regional Transportation Authority to implement transportation projects of regional significance for the Municipality of Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 13th day of May, 2003.


Chair

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk

Municipality of Anchorage
MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE
Agenda Document Control Sheet

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION)

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 1 | SUBJECT OF AGENDA DOCUMENT | DATE PREPARED <i>AN 2003-131</i> |
| | A Resolution Supporting a South Central Commuter Rail Service and Requesting Federal Funds Necessary to Support a Demonstration Project for That Service | 2003 MAY -7 PM 3:50 |
| | DEPARTMENT NAME | CLERK'S OFFICE <input type="checkbox"/> AO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AR <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> AIM |
| 2 | Assembly | DIRECTOR'S NAME Dick Traini |
| 3 | THE PERSON THE DOCUMENT WAS ACTUALLY PREPARED BY | HIS/HER PHONE NUMBER |
| 4 | COORDINATED WITH AND REVIEWED BY | INITIALS |
| | Mayor | |
| | Heritage Land Bank | |
| | Merrill Field Airport | |
| | Municipal Light & Power | |
| | Port of Anchorage | |
| | Solid Waste Services | |
| | Water & Wastewater Utility | |
| | Municipal Manager | |
| | Cultural & Recreational Services | |
| | Employee Relations | |
| | Finance, Chief Fiscal Officer | |
| | Fire | |
| | Health & Human Services | |
| | Office of Management and Budget | |
| | Management Information Services | |
| | Police | |
| | Planning, Development & Public Works | |
| | Development Services | |
| | Facility Management | |
| | Planning | |
| | Project Management & Engineering | |
| | Street Maintenance | |
| | Traffic | |
| | Public Transportation Department | |
| | Purchasing | |
| | Municipal Attorney | |
| | Municipal Clerk | |
| | Other | |
| 5 | Special Instructions/Comments | |
| | | |
| | | |
| 6 | ASSEMBLY HEARING DATE REQUESTED <i>5/13/03</i> | PUBLIC HEARING DATE REQUESTED <i>7</i> |