



City of Bettles

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Bettles, AK 99726
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Resolution 2014-4

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE BUILDING OF A YEAR-ROUND ROAD THROUGH BETTLES, ALASKA TO ACCESS THE AMBLER MINING DISTRICT USING THE BROOKS EAST CORRIDOR STARTING AT PROSPECT CREEK.

- WHEREAS, The City of Bettles rescinded Resolution 2012-5 that supported the road, by overwhelming public demand, in July of 2012; and,
- WHEREAS, The City of Bettles has gone on public record opposing a State or private highway between Prospect and the Ambler Mining District on a route through the City of Bettles from the State road system (Resolution 2012-8); and,
- WHEREAS, The City of Bettles desires economic development in keeping with the chosen lifestyle of its residents and the current economy of wilderness tourism, which road system access and presence of a mining road would grievously harm; and
- WHEREAS, The proposed road has been handed over from the State of Alaska to AIDEA and is no longer being considered a public road but a privately owned limited use industrial mining road; and
- WHEREAS, The present ice-road between Bettles and Prospect is only open for a short period during the winter, and is thereby more in keeping with the economy and lifestyle of a remote bush village whose economy is based in large part on remote Alaska wilderness tourism; and
- WHEREAS, Federal, State, and local governments, as well as local residents and businesses will not benefit from the mining traffic that a private industrial mining road will bring; and
- WHEREAS, The Brooks East Corridor is only the least expensive option being examined for constructing and maintaining overland access to the Ambler Mining District, and there are six other routes under consideration that may be used instead; and
- WHEREAS, Road access to the Ambler Mining District and the subsequent development of mines in that area could prove to be an environmental and cultural and loss that can never be regained; and
- WHEREAS, The impacts of a 220 mile road on subsistence, caribou migration, and the environment have not been adequately addressed by the State of Alaska, DOT, AIDEA or NOVA Copper; and
- WHEREAS, Significant concerns in opposition to building this road have not been adequately addressed by the State of Alaska, DOT, AIDEA or NOVA Copper; now,

Gateway to the Arctic