

Office of the Mayor

Chugiak Eagle River Advisory Board (CERAB) Ms. Debbie Ossiander, Co-Chair Mr. Karl von Luhrte, Co-Chair

August 16, 2021

Subject: EaglExit Proposal

Dear CERAB Co-Chairs,

I am writing on behalf of Mayor Dave Bronson to request your consideration of an August 6, 2021 EaglExit proposal, included with this letter.

Mayor Bronson understands there are specific issues relating to the Chugiak Eagle River area that are different from those of the general Anchorage area. He supports the quasi-independent governance that is currently held by the Chugiak Eagle River Advisory Board, the Chugiak Birchwood Eagle River Rural Road Service Area, and the Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation Board. Likewise, his administration is committed to addressing Chugiak and Eagle River issues directly with the Chugiak Eagle River community. He has an excellent working relationship with both Assembly members Crystal Kennedy and Jamie Allard.

EaglExit was formed with the intent of detaching the Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River (Assembly District 2) geo-political area from the Municipality of Anchorage and creating a Chugiak Eagle River independent community. In pursuance of this objective, EaglExit contracted with Northern Economics to complete two studies on the feasibility of establishing an independent community. The first was a revenue analysis, followed by an expenditure analysis. I assume you have received copies of these reports for your consideration, published on September 28, 2020. If not, they may be found on the EaglExit website.

In June of this year, EaglExit representatives met with then Mayor-elect Bronson to provide an overview of the project. The representatives recently made available an updated version of the presentation, which includes a specific funding request to finance the next steps in pursuing the detachment process. Since EaglExit is requesting government financial assistance to pursue the potential detachment of Assembly District 2 from the municipality, Mayor Bronson considers it an appropriate expenditure for the taxpayers of Assembly District 2 to make, if it is the will of the residents to fund a portion of the EaglExit effort. Therefore, this letter is a request for your board to advise the Administration as to whether you support appropriating up to \$174,000 from your 2022 budget to fund this process. Since the municipality is currently developing the 2022 budget, it is timely for you to advise as to whether we should identify these funds for appropriation to the EaglExit process from within your budget. Please respond as to your board's decision by September 15, 2021. Should you have any questions concerning this request, please do not hesitate to contact me direct at 907-360-4358.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig E. Campbell

Chief of Staff