

Attachment(s):

1. Resolution No. 23-010

Summary Statement/Background:

We are missing Social Security Administration office in our general area. Borough Mayor Edna DeVries has started a campaign to push for the creation of an office in Palmer.

Administration's Recommendation:

Approve Resolution No. 23-010

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Introduced by: Manager Moosey

Date: 4/11/2023

Action: Approved

Vote: Unanimous

Yes:

No:

Tudor	
Best	
Ojala IV	
Melin	
Alcantra	
Mayor Carrington	

CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA

Resolution No. 23-010

A Resolution of the Palmer City Council Supporting The Opening Of A Social Security Office In The Mat-Su Borough

WHEREAS, the Mat-Su Borough (Borough) is the second largest borough in the State of Alaska with a 2020 Census population of 107,081 residents; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the population of the Borough was 88,995 residents, so the Borough has experienced a growth of 20.32% in the last 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the closest Social Security Administration (SSA) office is in downtown Anchorage, this means the drive for Borough residents to get to the SSA office is anywhere from 45 minutes to two and a half hours for our northern residents; and

WHEREAS, over 16% of adults in the Borough are senior citizens; the seniors in the Borough are the fastest growing population in the State of Alaska and they struggle to do business with the SSA office in Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, not only is the distance to get to the SSA office in downtown Anchorage a struggle, the weather in the winter makes parking on the streets and navigating icy sidewalks risky and dangerous to the Brough’s senior population, and once inside the office the wait can take hours; and

WHEREAS, the online SSA services have proven to be frustrating, and residents say that trying to talk to a person requires being on hold for sometimes more than an hour.

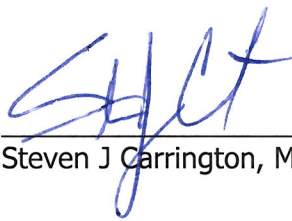
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Palmer encourages a SSA office in the Borough to provide a safer and less stressful experience for seniors and other residents in the Borough that have important business dealings with the Social Security Administration.

AND FURTHER RESOLVES, that the SSA Administration gives full consideration to placing the SSA office in Palmer, Alaska, which is home to the Governor’s Mat-Su Valley office, the Mat-Su Borough Office, the Alaska Division of Agriculture, the US Consolidated Farm Services Agency, the USDA Rural Development, the Mat-Su Field Tax Office, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the Department of Transportation Maintenance and Operations Division, and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Approved by the Palmer City Council this 11th day of April, 2023.



Shelly Acteson, CMC, City Clerk



Steven J Carrington, Mayor