

RESOLUTION NO. 5021, AS AMENDED

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONCERN WITHOPPOSITION TO THE
ORE TRUCKING PROPOSAL FOR THE MANH CHOH MINE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the City of Fairbanks supports the plans to develop Kinross Gold/Contango ORE ~~plans to transport ore from the Manh Choh Mine Project near Tetlin, Alaska, which will continue the long tradition of gold mining in Interior Alaska to the processing plant at Fort Knox mine near Cleary Summit, a distance of almost 260 miles;~~ and

WHEREAS, mining and farming are the only economies that actually create wealth, along with entities that add value to them~~under the ore trucking proposal, up to 96 times every day, double-trailer ore hauling trucks, 120 foot long and weighing up to 80 tons, would make the trip from Tetlin to Cleary Summit and then make the return trip;~~ and

WHEREAS, all retailers and service providers, including government, are dependent upon those who create wealth~~the addition of these double trailers, driven in all Alaskan weather conditions, will cause wear and tear on Alaska highways and will create unsafe conditions; and~~

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Fairbanks City Council to see this project successfully move forward~~according to Alaska DOT&PF information, truck traffic would increase significantly along the route, for example: by 45% on Peger Road at the Chena River bridge and by 198% on the Steese Highway south of Fox; and~~


WHEREAS, the current transportation plan has created much research and concern in our community about impacts upon roads, traffic, safety, and other issues~~other considerations require thorough examination, such as the 180+ school bus stops along the proposed route; and~~

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks City Council recognizes that it does not have legal jurisdiction in this matter and can only act in an advisory capacity~~the FNSB's Air Pollution Control Commission (APCC) recently sent the attached letter to Mayor Bryce Ward addressing the air quality impacts and possible mitigation measures in the FNSB PM2.5 non-attainment area regarding the proposed Kinross Gold ore-hauling plans from the Manh Choh mine to Fort Knox Mine.~~

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City ~~supports~~~~opposes the proposal to truck ore from the Manh Choh mine through the City of Fairbanks and to the processing plant at Fort Knox mine.~~**project but hopes that legitimate alternatives can be found to the problematic current ore hauling plan that might include the following:**

1. Revisiting the investment in a mill that could be used by not only this project but also by other organizations with holdings in eastern Alaska, making it more fiscally feasible. The State of Alaska alone has 170,000 acres of very promising lands adjacent to the 675,000 acres of Tetlin lease lands. Having this infrastructure in place could greatly aid in developing the economy in the Interior.
2. Limiting the ore hauling to evening-only hours, which the City understands may not be economically feasible but would mirror what other firms do when using double trailers.
3. Any other methodologies that may prove feasible.

PASSED and APPROVED this 9th day of January 2023.



David Pruhs, Mayor

AYES: Marney, Ringstad, Cleworth, Tidwell
NAYS: Sprinkle, Rogers
ABSENT: None
APPROVED: January 9, 2023

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


D. Danyelle Snider, MMC, City Clerk
Paul Ewers, City Attorney