

**A BIRCHWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE STATE  
OF ALASKA LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST THE US DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND  
THE NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION**

**Resolution #2025-02-01**

WHEREAS, under Anchorage Municipal Code Section 8.01, Community Councils are created in order to afford citizens an opportunity for maximum community involvement and self-determination,

WHEREAS, Birchwood Community Council has had multiple meetings discussing the potential impact of a casino in our neighborhood, and believes there will be a significant negative impact created by a local casino, and

WHEREAS, the Indian Gaming Commission recently determined that the Ondola allotment was an exception to previous case law and gave its permission for a casino to be built off Birchwood Spur in Anchorage,

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska (SOA) has now renewed its position claiming primary jurisdiction over Alaska native allotments, and thus opposing the Indian Gaming Commission decision and

WHEREAS, this decision impacts our Birchwood community, the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska.

WE THEREFORE, are in full support of the SOA lawsuit and desire for the court to reaffirm previous case law that the SOA has primary jurisdiction over Alaska Native Allotments and therefore, the decision of the Indian Gaming Commission was in error and it does not have jurisdiction to permit a gaming facility on this native allotment.

Passed this day, February 12, 2025

Signed:

Debbie Ossiander

Matt Cruickshank

Co-Chairs