

*Presented 1/12/98*

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION MEMORANDUM**

**IM No. 98-01**

**SUBJECT: Consideration of Locating a Detention Facility in the Wasilla Area.**

PREPARED BY: Planning Office

DATE: December 30, 1997

FOR AGENDA OF: January 12, 1998

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**SUMMARY:**

**THE STATE OF ALASKA, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES IS CONSIDERING TO LOCATE A MAT-SU YOUTH DETENTION FACILITY IN THE WASILLA AREA. LOCATING THIS FACILITY IN THE WASILLA AREA HAS THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS:**


- The Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District's Alternative High School is located near the Parks Highway and Church Road. The Alternative High School will be used for training those detained in this facility.
- The construction of a 4.5 to 5 million dollar facility will be an economic benefit during the construction of such a facility.
- The annual operational cost between 1 and 1.6 million dollars will support the economic benefit for employment, and many support services such a laundry, janitorial, food preparation and delivery, etc.
- The close proximity to the proposed Public Safety Facility would be an economical and time saving benefit for reducing travel time of a Wasilla Police juvenile transport.
- The McLaughlin Youth Center is overcrowded and 20% of their population is from our area.
- This facility would allow many juveniles to be closer to their families that live in the Greater Wasilla area.
- The New Wasilla Airport property is zoned I-Industrial and supports the development of a correctional facility.
- The potential exists of increasing revenue from the Wasilla Airport by leasing available land to the State of Alaska.
- The Alaska State Troopers periodically transport juveniles with State of Alaska aircraft.
- The Alaska State Troopers frequently transport juveniles via the Parks Highway.

A resolution has been drafted and will be forwarded to the Wasilla Planning Commission (WPC). The result of the meeting of the WPC will be forwarded to the Wasilla City Council.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**  No  Yes, amount requested: \$

Fund:

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** None



Reviewed by: SARAH PALIN, Mayor

Attachments: