

SUBJECT: Local Bidders Preference

PREPARED BY: Administration

DATE: January 4, 2000

FOR AGENDA OF: January 10, 2000

**SUMMARY:**

Administration has been asked by various businesspersons in the area to propose a local bidders preference ordinance for council consideration.

The Municipality of Anchorage has a similar ordinance on it's books, and attorney Ken Jacobus is confident their ordinance is constitutional and holds up in court under challenges, but reminds us that, as with absolutely every other law a city adopts, there is no guarantee that these ordinances will always withstand constitutional challenges.

There are pros and cons to allowing a preference to be given to local businesses. The two-percent preference (which is equivalent to the sales tax) would seem to not infringe on the desire for a free market in our surrounding area, but would accomplish a goal of allowing local bidders to have a small advantage.

Council consideration should be given to point #4 in this proposed ordinance concerning what constitutes "local". Does council consider the city limits as "local", or the greater Wasilla area, or the entire Mat-Su Borough?

This is entirely a public policy matter which is appropriately discussed and considered by the city's policy makers, the Wasilla City Council.

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

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Council consideration.



Reviewed by: SARAH PALIN, Mayor

Presented with: Ord 00-10  
Date: 1/24/2000 Verified by: SP