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March 12, 2012

The Honorable Sean Parnell
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Sent via email

Dear Governor Parnell:

Please accept our deep appreciation for your recent visit during a busy Legislative session. We are especially grateful for your personal interest in the potential construction of a new Alaska State Office Building in Nome. We admire the high level of integrity and professionalism your administration has displayed in addressing this project.

It is our hope this much needed project can be advanced during the current Legislative session; to do so will require definitive action be taken very soon. We hope you can finish the project feasibility study and make a final determination on how to proceed this week.

If you should chose to pursue the project through a government-to-government relationship, as proposed in the City of Nome's July 2010 response to the Department of Administration's Request for Information, we urge you to designate the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) as the lead state agency for the project.

The advantages of this approach, which were discussed during your trip, are these:

- It would allow location of the project on Front Street, which through a series of public meetings was identified as the optimal central location preferred by the community.
- The vetted procurement methodology and legal documents used by AHFC in development of the parking garage for the Atwood Building in Anchorage could be used with very minimal modification.
- The State would receive a building custom designed to its specifications without having to bear any construction risk.
- Substantial historic data indicates a building developed in this manner would cost the State of Alaska considerably less than if the State of Alaska built the building itself.

We look forward to working with your administration on this important project.

Respectfully,
CITY OF NOME

Denise Michels
Mayor

cc: Senator Donny Olson
Representative Neal Foster

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