

May 25, 1964

MEMORANDUM

In talking this morning to Gerald McMahon, City Manager of Fairbanks, I learned that Mr. Owen Meals of Valdez expects to phone his associates in Seattle today relative to title search, escrow arrangements, and recording of the dedication deed to the City from the Valdez Port Company, Inc. Valdez Port Company is a recently formed corporation consisting of the Hazlitt and Meals heirs to much of the Mineral Creek area. Mr. McMahon stated that he believed they owned some 654 acres and that they were conveying 115 acres to Valdez. Title search is being conducted by Washington Title Insurance Company of Seattle. Mr. McMahon stated that Bullerwell, Fairbanks City Attorney, has worked with the Department of Law (Dave Ruskin) in Juneau in the drafting of a bill for introduction today in the State Legislature to accomplish annexation by legislation. The fringe areas at Mineral Creek are by now under the jurisdiction of the State's Division of Lands. McMahon states that the area, all told, including certain water reserves, aggregates 14 sections of land.

Land owned by the Port company but not included in the 115 acre conveyance will, by agreement with Valdez, be non-taxable until improved, leased, or sold.

Mr. McMahon stated that the City of Valdez is concerned about the Armstrong Report's reference to a dock to run parallel to the shoreline and to be approximately 600 feet in length. Concern arises from the fact that such a dock would accommodate only one ocean-going vessel at a time.

He stated further that the Council was seeking a written memorandum of understanding with the Corps of Engineers clarifying work to be undertaken by the Corps and its time schedule.

McMahon expects to be in Valdez on Friday, the 29th.

It may be desirable to urge his getting down there sooner, in order that he and Dwight Ink show up in Valdez together. He will be reluctant to advance his schedule because of normal duties at Fairbanks. His phone number in Fairbanks is 456-6421.