

**CITY OF PALMER ACTION MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Contract in the Amount of \$7,500 with Ashley Reed & Associates for Professional Lobbyist Services

**AGENDA OF: February 26, 2008**

<b>Council action:</b>	Authorized in the amount of \$15,000
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**Approved for presentation by B.B. Allen, City Manager** \_\_\_\_\_

Route To:	Department/Individual:	Initials:	Remarks:
X	Originator – City Manager		
x	City Clerk	<i>JA</i>	<i>* Please note attached amendment.</i>
X	City Attorney	<i>AA</i>	
	Director of Public Safety		
	Director of Administration		
	Director of Community Development		
	Director of Community Services		
	Director of Public Works		

**Attachment(s):** Ashley Reed and Associates Contract, HB 369

**Fiscal note:**

	No fiscal impact.	
X	Funds are budgeted from this account number:	01.01.05.6630
	Funds are not budgeted. Budget modification is required. Affected account number:	

Finance Director Signature: *[Signature]*

**Summary statement:** The City Manager recommends entering into a contract to with a lobbying firm to ensure the City is kept abreast of all developments regarding the City's legislative requests. The lobbying firm will also assist the City in its efforts to raise the population threshold from 5,000 to ~~7,500~~ <sup>10,000</sup> to be eligible for a 30% local match for DEC grant funds. The Alaska State Legislature has only a 90-day session, and it is imperative to have someone in place in Juneau to track issues and relevant legislation which impact the City of Palmer.

The Legislative Team of Mayor John Combs, Council Member Mike Chmielewski and City Manager Bill Allen have already met and talked with the Valley legislative delegation and with

the leadership of both the State House and State Senate. The lobbyist will support these efforts.

**Administration recommendation:** Authorize action memorandum 08-009.



Bill Allen  
City Manager

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## MEMORANDUM

To: City Council  
From: B.B. Allen   
Date: February 21, 2008  
Subject: Contract with Ashley Reed for Lobbying Services

The original contract of \$7,500 with Ashley Reed was to draft legislation to raise the population threshold from 5,000 to 7,500 for the State's Municipal Water/Sewage and Solid Waster Matching Grant Program. This would allow communities of 7,500 or less to match grant funds at 30% instead of 50%. The bill has been drafted and is now in House Community and Regional Affairs, with a population ceiling of 10,000 to garner increased support. We will track the bill and are happy to report that the bill has a lot of support.

I proposed the contract with Ashley Reed be amended to \$15,000 to allow the firm to monitor and track our legislation, issues, and capital appropriations.

*~Ashley Reed & Associates~*

**2008 Alaska Legislative Session**

Proposal for Services

**City of Palmer**

January 26, 2008

The City of Palmer has requested submission of a proposal for specific legislative services to be rendered during the 2008 Legislative Regular Session.

*Scope of Services:*

- Draft legislative proposal addressing the population formula under the State's Municipal Water/Sewage and Solid Waste Matching Grant Program. Specifically, amend statute from [5,000] to 7,500 for community 30/70 percent match eligibility (AS 46.03.030 (e)).
- Obtain review, and drafting conformity, by Legislative Legal Services.
- Review, and assist as necessary, City developed supporting documentation.
- Seek bill introduction by both Senate and the House. Notify City of introduction and committee referrals.
- Identify other communities impacted by this proposal. Circulate measure and seek support from members with communities similarly situated.
- Review City's Program for Progress document. Provide advice on preparation, information format, and presentation(s) before the legislature.

*Service Fee:*

- Fee for above services is \$7,500.

Ashley Reed & Associates is committed to providing the above services at the fee so noted.



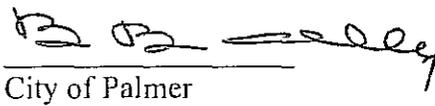
Ashley Reed

Date: 1-26-08



Royce Weller

Date: 1-26-08



City of Palmer

Approval Date: *January 26, 2008*

*limited to capital appropriations and monitoring of issues*  
**Potential Additional Services:**

- Beyond the scope of this contract, and services noted above, specific lobbying services can be made available to the City to assist with passage of this measure. The fee for this additional service is ~~\$15,000~~ - ~~\$7,500~~.

*Total contract: \$15,000.*

**Bio/Resumes:**

**Ashley Reed-**

The 2008 Legislative Session will mark Mr. Reed's 25<sup>th</sup> year as an Alaska Lobbyist.

He is one of only two lobbyists ever to be listed by the Alaska Journal of Commerce as "one of the twenty most powerful people in Alaska." The other lobbyist is now deceased.

In addition to lobbying, Mr. Reed regularly consults with clients, including many fortune 500 companies both in and out of the State of Alaska, in developing effective communications, public relations, and grassroots' campaigns.

Clients over the years include (partial list): Tyson Foods; Berkshire Hathaway; Idemitsu Kosan Co. (Japan's largest energy company); BP America; Tyco International; and UBS (Paine Webber).

Some of his current long-term clients include: Cook Inlet Region Inc. (Alaska's most financially successful Native Corporation); PepsiCo; BP Exploration; McKinley Capital Management; JP Morgan; Wells Fargo; General Communications Incorporated; and Enstar Natural Gas Company.

Mr. Reed, age 52, is married and has one son. He is active in many community endeavors and is Chairman of the Scotty Gomez (NY Rangers) Foundation.

*Royce Weller ~*

Mr. Weller, Mr. Reed's Senior Associate, has been an Alaskan lobbyist for the past 6 years. Though contract, has lobbied for: Alyeska Pipeline Services Company; Holland America Line; Trident Seafoods, Prudential Real Estate and the Mat-Su Borough.

Prior to Lobbying, he worked for the State of Alaska for 21 years. His state service includes five years as a budget analyst for the Governor, two years as the Assistant Commissioner for the Department of Revenue, and 10 years with the Alaska Legislature. His experience has provided him with a detailed understanding and working knowledge of both the budget and the Legislative process.

Mr. Weller, age 52, is married with four children.

*~Ashley Reed & Associates~*

**Legislative Update  
HB 369**

**City of Palmer**

**February 19, 2008**

Today, **HB 369** was introduced in the House. The measure, sponsored by Rep. Gatto, received two referrals: CA&A and Finance.

The title of HB369 reads as follows: "An Act relating to certain grants awarded by the Department of Environmental Conservation." The language of the bill reads exactly as the draft we have reviewed.

Full text of bill:

[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_fulltext.asp?session=25&bill=HB369](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_fulltext.asp?session=25&bill=HB369)

**HOUSE BILL NO. 369**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE GATTO

Introduced: 2/19/08

Referred: Community and Regional Affairs, Finance

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to certain grants awarded by the Department of Environmental  
2 Conservation."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 46.03.030(e) is amended to read:

5 (e) A grant under this section to a municipality for a project funded by an  
6 appropriation made by the legislature

7 (1) before July 1, 1994, may not exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs  
8 of the project;

9 (2) after July 1, 1994, may not exceed

10 (A) 85 percent of the eligible costs for a municipality with a  
11 population of 1,000 persons or less;

12 (B) 70 percent of the eligible costs for a municipality with a  
13 population of 1,001 to 10,000 [5,000] persons; and

14 (C) 50 percent of the eligible costs for a municipality with a

1 population greater than 10,000 [5,000] persons; however, if a municipality  
2 with a population greater than 10,000 [5,000] persons seeks a grant for a  
3 project that relates to a solid waste processing or disposal system that  
4 incorporates resource recovery, the department may provide a grant for up to  
5 60 percent of the eligible costs of the project.